

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original): A process for the production of a polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA), the process comprising culturing a micro-organism in a culture medium inside a fermentation vessel, whereby at a stage which precedes the end of fermentation;
 - a) the carbon source is consumed by the micro-organisms at a rate greater than it is added to the medium;
 - b) the carbon source is added at a rate of ≤ 0.30 M carbon/kg medium per hour;
 - c) the carbon source is rate limiting on the growth of the micro-organisms, or is restricted such that the micro-organisms metabolise fat(s) and/or lipid(s);
 - d) the rate of addition of the carbon source is reduced or is below the rate of consumption of the carbon source by the micro-organisms; or
 - e) the carbon source has been all used, or has a concentration in the medium of about zero, at or before the end of fermentation;
 - f) the carbon source addition is stopped but fermentation is allowed to continue; and/or
 - g) the micro-organisms are subjected to conditions whereby they metabolise, or consume, one or more fat(s) or lipids(s) in preference to arachidonic acid (ARA).
2. (currently amended): ~~A process according to~~ The process of claim 1, wherein:
 - h) the concentration of the carbon source in that stage is on average ≤ 10 g/kg and/or ≤ 0.17 M carbon/kg medium;
 - i) the carbon source is glucose; and/or
 - j) the PUFA is present in a microbial oil.
3. (currently amended): ~~A process according to~~ The process of claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~, wherein:
 - k) the ~~second~~ stage which precedes the end of fermentation starts at from 15 to 2 hours before the end of the fermentation or less than 10 days after the beginning of the fermentation.

4. (currently amended): ~~A process according to~~ The process of any one preceding claim 1, wherein:

- l) the (entire) fermentation is carried out at a temperature $\leq 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ ~~[[or]]~~ and/or $\leq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$;
- m) ~~it is conducted in the absence of~~ the culture medium does not contain an additive oil; and/or
- n) the fermentation lasts no longer than 9 days.

5. (currently amended): ~~A process according to~~ The process of any preceding claim 1 wherein:

- n) the PUFA comprises arachidonic acid (ARA); and/or
- o) the vessel has a capacity of at least 10 litres.

6. (currently amended): ~~A process according to~~ The process of any preceding claim 1 wherein the micro-organism is *Mortierella*, optionally *Mortierella alpina*, and/or is non-genetically modified.

7. (original): A microbial oil which comprises at least 50% arachidonic acid (ARA) and:

- a) has at least a 90% triglyceride content;
- b) has a peroxide value (POV) of no more than 2.5;
- c) has an anisidine value (AnV) of no more than 1.0;
- d) is hexane extracted; and/or
- e) has a phospholipid content below 5%.

8. (currently amended): ~~[[An]] The oil according to~~ of claim 7 which comprises:

- f) less than 5% of C_{20} and/or C_{24} polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs); and/or
- g) less than 5% of C_{22+} PUFAs.

9. (currently amended): ~~[[An]] The oil according to~~ of claim 7 ~~[[or 8]]~~ wherein:

- h) ~~[[the]]~~ a free fatty acid content is $\leq 0.4\%$;
- i) the triglyceride content is at least 95% or 98%; and/or
- j) the oil is preparable by a process according to ~~any one of claim~~ ~~[[s]]~~ 1 ~~[[to 6]]~~.

10. (currently amended): A composition comprising a microbial oil obtainable by a process according to ~~any one of claim~~[[s]] 1 to 6 ~~and/or a microbial oil according to any one of claims 7 to 9.~~

11. (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The composition ~~according to~~ of claim 10 which is a foodstuff ~~(such as an infant formula), food, feed, or feed supplement, pharmaceutical, or~~ veterinary or cosmetic composition.

12. (new): The composition defined in claim 11 which is infant formula.

13. (new): A composition comprising a microbial oil of claim 7.

14. (new): The composition of claim 12 which is a foodstuff, food, feed, ~~or~~ feed supplement, pharmaceutical, or veterinary or cosmetic composition.

15. (new) The composition defined in claim 14 which is infant formula.